



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Amendment

LCO No. 7614

SB0121607614HR0

Offered by:
REP. CHAPIN, 67th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 1216

File No. 32

Cal. No. 630

***"AN ACT CONCERNING GRADUATION RATES AT INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION."***

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Department of
4 Children and Families may provide financial assistance for post
5 secondary school educational or vocational opportunities to any
6 individual who is committed to the department or was committed to
7 the department at the time of such individual's eighteenth birthday.
8 The department shall prescribe conditions of eligibility for the receipt
9 of such financial assistance and other program requirements deemed
10 necessary in the department's policy manual. Prior to awarding
11 financial assistance to an applicant, the department shall (1) identify
12 any other financial assistance opportunity available to the applicant
13 and assist the applicant in applying for such assistance, and (2) ensure
14 that the issuance of assistance pursuant to this section, except in the
15 case of assistance for a vocational opportunity, shall be used to attend

16 an institution of higher education accredited by the Board of
17 Governors of Higher Education pursuant to section 10a-34 of the
18 general statutes or the board's equivalent in another state or that is
19 regionally accredited. For any new application for financial assistance
20 received by the department on or after July 1, 2007, financial assistance
21 provided to an individual by the department may not exceed, on an
22 annual basis, the total cost of in-state tuition, room, board and
23 matriculation fees associated with attending The University of
24 Connecticut at Storrs on September first of the calendar year in which
25 the request for financial assistance is made. Notwithstanding the
26 provisions of this section, (A) if an individual has been determined
27 eligible for post secondary school financial assistance by the
28 department prior to the effective date of this section, and the amount
29 of financial assistance being provided by the department on behalf of
30 such individual exceeds or will exceed the limit prescribed by this
31 section, such individual may continue to receive the higher amount of
32 financial assistance provided the individual is in full compliance with
33 the department's program requirements, and (B) within the discretion
34 of the Commissioner of Children and Families, the commissioner may
35 issue financial assistance to an individual in an amount that exceeds
36 the limit prescribed by this section.

37 (b) On or before July 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the
38 Commissioner of Children and Families shall report to the joint
39 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
40 matters relating to human services on the: (1) Number of individuals
41 who, in accordance with the provisions of this section, received
42 financial assistance for post secondary school educational or vocational
43 opportunities during the preceding fiscal year and the aggregate
44 amount of assistance provided to such individuals; (2) number of such
45 individuals receiving financial assistance who attended in-state
46 educational or vocational programs; (3) number of such individuals
47 receiving financial assistance who attended out-of-state educational or
48 vocational programs; (4) number of occasions that the commissioner
49 exercised the discretion provided for in this section and issued

50 financial assistance to individuals in amounts that exceed the limits
51 prescribed in this section and the amount of assistance provided on
52 each such occasion; and (5) amount of financial assistance provided to
53 such individuals from sources other than the Department of Children
54 and Families."